

# *The Northeastern Onyx*

The Black Student Voice of Northeastern University

## ANNIVERSARY ISSUE



**"FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE"**

# The Northeastern Onyx

The Black Student Voice of Northeastern University

VOL. 5 No. 3

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## The Bakke Case and Affirmative Action

by Gregory M. Smith

There is a widespread mood in America now, that blacks are moving too far at too fast a rate. There are some who feel blacks have asked for too much, and have gained too much. This is the current mood in America.

However, this is far from the truth. If one looks at the latest statistics from the Department of Labor, blacks constitute 15 percent of America's unemployment, while the percentage for black teenagers are higher. All one has to do is walk the street corners of cities and towns, to see black youth waisted to a hopeless present and dim future. The educational system for blacks in primary and secondary schools remain the same before the "landmark" Brown decision: interior and segregated. Thus, relegating the masses of blacks to an underclass.

Black Americans might possibly be set back twenty-five years by a controversial case before the Supreme Court. This case is the Regents of the University of California vs. Bakke.

Allan Bakke, an engineer with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, applied for admission to the University of California at Davis Medical School in 1973 and 1974. In both instances Bakke was rejected. Bakke filed suit against the University on the contention that he was passed over as the result of sixteen minorities being admitted to the medical school through a "special admissions program." In essence, Bakke stated he was more qualified than the sixteen minorities according to his benchmark scores [Undergraduate grade point average and Medical College Admissions Test].

When Bakke's suit reached the local court and the State Supreme Court of California, rulings in favor of Bakke were made both times. The Supreme Court of California ruled that according to the 14th Amendment, Bakke's civil rights under the equal protection clause of this amendment of the Constitution were violated.

The University of California

decided to appeal this ruling to the United States Supreme Court. As a result of this action, there has been a record number of "amicus curiae" briefs or friend of the Court briefs submitted to the Supreme Court both in favor of and against Bakke.

The opponents of affirmative action programs in education and employment, argued that race need not be a factor in admission policies as well as in employment practices. What should count is the qualifications one has. The opponents of affirmative action feel that many qualified white candidates are being passed by for professional schools and good job opportunities by lowering standards to make way for lesser qualified blacks. Another argument used is that admission officers and employers should be color-blind in their selection of candidates and be more objective.

Proponents of Affirmative Action argued that it is a stated fact that blacks have been dis-

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## Complaints from within "The Studies Department"

by Cyndnee A. Thompson  
ONYX Correspondent

"It used to be a nice atmosphere around here. Now everything is so businesslike. There's no personal touch, it seems strange. I just don't know," says a student enrolled in the Afro-American Studies Department.

Enrollment at the Afro-American Studies Department is down 50%. An average of 300 students were enrolled in the Studies Department last year, now the number of students is down to 150.

Doctor "Doc" William McLaurin has been acting chairman of the Afro-American Studies Department since Ramona Edelin's resignation.

Ms. Linda Ricks has been his assistant, and Executive Officer of the Studies Department since October of this year. She assigns all work study programs for students enrolled.

Students are weary of their duties at the Studies Department. A new student expressed her feelings this way, "I don't find it benefits me. I run errands around here, do schedules. The reason why I'm going to college is because I want to open up my own day care center. This has nothing to do with day care."

Students also have no contact with either "Doc" McLaurin or Ms. Linda Ricks. "When I first made my first Coop appointment, he didn't show, it was on a Thursday. Last Friday I cornered him in the hallway and we haven't had that appointment yet," a student said speaking of Doctor McLaurin's attitude toward her as an incoming student that is interested in becoming a Studies Department major.

Normal work studies hours



She's gone and we'll miss her. Miss Willa Mae Burnett smiles with a friend at a farewell party held on her behalf. Many students have expressed repeated dissatisfaction with the Studies Department. Many claim Ms. Burnett's absence is why!

are down to a minimum. Meaning a cut in pay students who have problems paying for their education through work study.

Although one student expressed her feelings differently towards the new administration. "I find work study very demanding. I look at work study as a real job, so that I get something out of it, as a real job." The student also explained how she felt about the new administration and their duties, she replied. "It's improving, I think they're confident. Their ideas are new, everything is changing."

Rumors also fly about concerning teachers who teach within the Studies Department, whether or not they are satisfied with the new administration. Teachers were not able to speak on the subject when asked about their situation within the studies department.

The effect of the problems

within the Studies Department are not just affecting the teachers, nor the administration, but the students. Students are not getting paid to go to school, they are paying to go. Yet it is important to be patient and wait for the administration to take hold and smooth out the rough edges.

Things at the Afro-American Studies Department are in a state of limbo, due to resignations, and jobs found elsewhere by the former administration. Time will tell its toll, and we all should be patient and wait for better results.

A student stated when asked on how she feels about the studies department. "If the Studies Department doesn't stop having these upheavals in the eye of the president of Northeastern, it could be taken away from us."

Neither Doctor McLaurin nor Ms. Ricks would make any comment.

## The Death Penalty Is it really the answer?

by David Zachary Prince

The concept of using a "death penalty" has been the subject of much controversy over the years. The arguments are strong for both pros and cons. The society in which we live, has learned once again to its ultimate punitive sanction; that being the death penalty.

Certain states now have the right to sentence someone to death. It is true of course, that not all jurisdictions or states have gone back to the use of the death

penalty, however, recent study has shown that attitudes in support of its use are more powerful than ever. I believe that evidence of these attitudes might be shown in the case of Gary Gilmore. Are these attitudes an indication of precedence to be set for the future? And if so, what type of justice will prevail in terms of our moral and humanitarian concerns?

Having the opportunity to speak with offenders who, at

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# Q&A

## With Dr. Kenneth Loftman Northeastern University's First Black Trustee

**Q.** What do you like and what don't you like about N.U.?

A. I have a soft spot for N.U. This institution makes it easy to obtain an education with a minimal amount of funds. It afforded me an opportunity to keep a lot of money while participating in co-op. I also have a lot of personal pride in N.U. I'd recommend it for those who don't have funds to go to more expensive schools. We (the administration) want to make N.U. financially easier for a lot of different types of people.

**Q.** Do you feel as though that's why the university is so large? [Undergraduate and graduate combined.]

A. Exactly. If you study the composition of the N.U. student body, you'll find that it consists of students from middle and low income backgrounds. If you look around in many other places you'll see graduates working in businesses from Northeastern. Many graduates hold top positions not only in business but in other areas as well.

**Q.** What were prices like when you went to school?

A. When I went to N.U. it cost \$345 yearly. We had no dorms and we paid maybe \$5 or \$10 for student activities. So when I look back at those numbers, food, heating and everything else has gone up so high that we are probably not any better off, if anything, we are probably worse off.

**Q.** How do you plan to change things around N.U.?

A. I would like to make the cost of education a bit cheaper. There is a need for attention to specific mechanisms for educating black students. Look at the state schools, they charge very low tuition. I don't know how it can be done. I would like to make the first year of education affordable without costing thousands of dollars. Maybe there can be a way where students only pay a few hundred dollars their first year. The following year students should be able to contribute to their upperclass finances with the help of co-op.

**Q.** How did you become a Trustee?

A. I got a call from former President Knowles and I returned his call. He told me my name had been nominated for the Board of Trustees and, of course, I didn't refuse because I've always loved Northeastern. I don't know where the idea of being nominated to the position of trustee originated.

**Q.** What are your responsibilities as a member of the Board of Trustees?

A. We are guardians of the interest of everything concerned with N.U. As long as the President is acting responsibly, the role of the trustee is very minimal. At the same time we are kept aware of anything that might impinge upon these services being provided for the general public. We're aware of increases in tuition, we're aware of housing or any new curriculum, any new programs,

we're aware of just about everything. If there is a change, it is required that any of these changes be approved by the Trustees. We have been given that trust. For instance, the new proposal for a class in toxicology. This course will be a very important one for all businesses in the future. Northeastern is one of the first universities in the country to deal with this program.

**Q.** Do you think that the African-American Institute and the African-American Studies Dept. will ever merge?

A. That concept has been discussed on more than one occasion whether or not that will develop into a reality or not is uncertain. But N.U. is one of the few colleges which has two types of programs to help blacks with the educational process. You recall Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, assassination. Black students demanded help with education. The studies department and the Institute were designed to give more supportive services and cultural background to the students at N.U. because the campus is predominately white.

Other universities have dropped either one or both or at least the emphasis of those programs have been reduced. That's a pity because there are many things that black organizations on campus can do for the education of the blacks and the college as well. Whether or not a merger would occur is something that would depend on the type of structure that would evolve from it. There may be benefits to having a merger. To successfully plan a merger would require some study but it must be done in such a way to allow the two to merge without having the benefits disappear.

**Q.** How did you like participating on the Bratt Committee? [The committee that developed the report on the future of the Institute.]

A. I thought it was very important and vital. I felt I could contribute. I found working with the committee to be very stimulating. There were very few meetings but we worked very hard. We had almost 20 meetings. We had good representation across the board. We struggled with many questions, some of which we could not come up with answers, but I enjoyed every bit of it. Meetings lasted a minimum of two hours.

**Q.** Will the committee exist next year?

A. Only at the will of President Ryder. The committee was appointed to make recommendations. We met, we discussed our business, answered our questions, wrote up the report and gave it to the President, but as far as our initial task we have done what we were asked. We recognize that more needs to be done!

**Q.** Any new changes?

A. There again we need recommendations on things that should be emphasized, probably more than changed. We did make our recommendations to the President. The whole organ-



Dr. Kenneth Loftman illustrates how much enjoyment he receives when he plays the organ that he built himself. "That's right, I built it piece by piece," he said.

izational structure falls on his shoulders. One of the most important questions we dealt with concerned providing black students with a quality education. We were charged with advising the President on what the future role of the Institute should be, so we addressed ourselves specifically to that question.

**Q.** What do you do for hobbies?

A. Well you know I love to play tennis. Tennis relaxes me very much. I've also built my own organ.

**Q.** You did it yourself?

A. Yes, I certainly did it all, piece by piece. At times I feel as though I'm tired but I play for 1½ hours at a time and then I don't feel quite so tired. That's another thing, I've heard students come to me and say, "I

love the Institute because I can go over there and totally relax." So that's another function of the Institute, it's a place for relaxation.

**Q.** What did you miss during your education?

A. I never had the opportunity to live with a large group of people. I've heard various accounts of what goes on, but I think I'm missing something.

## IN MEMORY OF STEVEN BIKO

Sure, the apartheid axe has once again fallen on the neck of a brother - Steven Biko. The world claims to be sad but is it shedding any tears? Yes, crocodile tears! Every month a black brother is slaughtered in the jails of apartheid. Whether Biko was killed or died a natural death, whether James Kruger is pleased or sorry, whether he is cold or hot, Black Africa has lost a political giant and at the same time given birth to a martyr. The African society is of the living and the dead. Every dawn Steve Biko will be born again in the hearts and will of the freedom fighters, in the activities of all true African patriots. The immortal spirit of Biko will preside over the judgment of history regarding the decisive stage in the lives of our peoples in the life and death struggle against apartheid and neo-colonialism. We, Africans will not forgive those who killed Steve Biko and all the others.

The most beautiful flowers we Africans and all the freedom fighters can offer to honor the memory of Steve Biko and all the other brothers are the bullets, shells and tanks with which we are striking apartheid and imperialist forces in Africa. There is no doubt in my mind that surrounded by these external green of the African forests, flowers red as the blood of martyrs and yellow as the harvests of plenty will grow on the grave of Steve Biko, for Black Africa will definitely win.

Kwaku Danso-Boafo  
M.P.A. 1977

## James Spruill Comes to N.U.

Professor Eugene J. Blackman, Chairperson of the Dept. of Drama and Speech, announces the appointment of JAMES SPRUILL, one of the foremost black directors in the Boston Area, to direct the forthcoming production of AN EVENING IN THE THEATRE: Two Theatrical Pieces by Ed Bullins, the most honored black playwright in the country. The World Premiere production will be given on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 8-11, 1978 in the STUDIO THEATRE.

Mr. Spruill has been responsible for the producing and directing of a long list of theatre pieces, among which are RAT'S MASS by Adrienne Kennedy, HOW OO YOU OO, IN THE WINE TIME, THE MYSTERY OF PHYLIS WHEATLEY - all by

Ed Bullins: THE BLACKS by Jean Genet. He has directed at the Gossett Academy for Dramatic Arts, The New Lafayette Theatre, The Theatre Company of Boston, Emerson College, Boston Center for the Arts, and the Boston University Theatre.

It is with great pleasure that we announce the appointment of MR. JAMES SPRUILL as guest director.



In earlier years, black students protested, cried, and did anything to help with the improvement of their education. Building takeovers rarely happen these days but if things get any worse, students will have to do it all over again.

# THE HARD FOUGHT BLACK STUDENT MOVEMENT

## THE 1960's and 1970's

Black student movements in America flow from movements in the black community. The black student community is a young community. It came into existence for the most part during Reconstruction when land grant colleges and universities were established for African people.

Black student movements usually occur during the same time that mass black movements are full bloom. Different leaders and organizations influence the birth and direction of these movements.

The black student movement reached a high point in the 1960's and early 1970's. But due to repression on the black movement in general and ideological division-confusion, the student movement is on decline in the latter 1970's.

To trace the origin of the black student movement in the 1960's we have to understand the beginnings of the civil rights movement.

The first mass civil disobedience protest against segregation began with the Montgomery Boycott. The Montgomery movement began on Dec. 1, 1955 when a black seamstress named Mrs. Rosa Parks refused to give her seat on a bus to a white man because she was too tired to stand.

"After the arrest, a group of black women asked the ministers and civic leaders to call a boycott on Dec. 5, the day of Mrs. Park's trial. One of the ministers who responded to that call was 26-year-old doctor of philosophy, Martin Luther King, Jr., an Atlanta native and

pastor of Montgomery's Dexter Avenue Baptist Church."

Out of mass struggle new organizations emerge. From mass meetings the Montgomery Improvement Association was formed. The M.I.A. organized a carpool to transport brothers and sisters who lived too far to walk back and forth to work.

At mass meetings Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. emerged as the main mass leader of the boycott. The city of Montgomery tried to break the boycott; but after a year of struggle, the U.S. Supreme Court declared Alabama's state and local laws supporting segregation on buses unconstitutional.

The Montgomery boycott served as an example of successful mass direct action. Dr. King insisted the success of the boycott had been because its participants had adhered to non-violence. He soon became the advocate of a passive resistance movement. Other communities organized similar campaigns.

By 1957 sixty southern black leaders met and formed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to develop the non-violent mass direct action movement. Also in 1957, Dr. King, along with A. Phillip Randolph and Roy Wilkins of the N.A.C.P., organized a mass prayer vigil in Washington, D.C. which was the largest black protest demonstration up until that time in history.

From black working class struggles for national democratic rights, black youth, especially in the South, began to relate to the move-

ment. Many were determined not to "wait" for freedom. In 1959 the Cuban revolution was victorious; many youth closely followed this revolution. The year 1960 came in with the aura of high expectations. It was a presidential election year and the N.A.C.P. had projected the slogan "Free by '63."

On Feb. 1, 1960 four freshmen at A&T College in Greensboro, N.C., sat in at a segregated Woolworth lunch counter downtown. In a matter of days, the idea leaped to other cities in North Carolina. During the next two weeks, sit-ins spread to 15 cities in five Southern states. Within the following year, over 50,000 people - most were black, some white participated in some kind of demonstration or another in a hundred; and over 3,600 demonstrators spent time in jail.

In a year several hundred lunch counters had been desegregated in Southern cities.

"Nearly 1,300 arrests had been made by this time... There were 400 arrests in Orangeburg, about 150 in Nashville, nearly 40 in each of Tallahassee and Florence (S.C.), about 80 in Atlanta, about 65 in Memphis and nearly 85 in Marshall, Tex.

"In the North, college students staged supporting demonstrations and raised funds for arrested Southern students. The focus of the sit-ins was broadening to include libraries, museums and art galleries; the methods...were...wade-ins, kneel-ins and other forms of non-violent direct action."

Miss Ella Baker, an organizer for SCLC, decided to hold a conference bringing together the sit-in leaders. She asked SCLC to underwrite it financially.

"Ella Baker went to Raleigh and got her Alma Mater, Shaw University, to provide facilities for a meeting of about a hundred students. But by the time of the conference on Easter weekend, Apr. 15-17, 1960, demonstrations had spread so fast that there were 60 centers of sit-in activity. Also, nineteen Northern colleges were interested enough to send delegates. The result was that over 200 people came to the conference, 126 of them student delegates from 58 different Southern communities in 12 states."

The black student movement of the 1960's began with the sit-ins. When SNCC, the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, was formed it served as an ad hoc coordinating committee for local centers of action. In the early sixties SNCC provided the movement with a center for non-violent direct action against racial discrimination.

In the North, white students formed the Northern Student Movement (NSM), that raised funds for SNCC.

"The turning point for SNCC came when CORE, the Congress of Racial Equality started the freedom rides in 1961. On May 14, 1961, members of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) be-

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Many students have forgotten why Martin Luther King, Jr. was killed! Have you?

gan the Freedom Rides to test a Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in transportation terminals. On May 20, after one of CORE's integrated buses was bombed near Anniston, Ala., and another was mobbed in Birmingham, CORE decided to call off its rides."

A group of Nashville students lead by Diana Nash and students in Atlanta continued the Freedom Rides. They decided to leave school for the movement. Most promised a year, others two, of full-time commitment. Black student reactivated the movement in 1961; and before the summer was over, students from all over the country had taken rides in the South.

In the fall of '61, SNCC found it increasingly difficult to keep action going on the college campuses. By this time, a core of students had left school and were working full time with SNCC. This transformed SNCC from a student group to a professional civil rights organization.

Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, embarrassed by the Freedom Rides, suggested that civil rights organizations jointly sponsor a campaign to register Southern black voters. Then the Justice Department seemed to offer federal protection for registration workers and white liberals procured foundation money to finance costs. Civil rights groups agreed to develop the project.

SNCC soon became the main focus of organizing mass voter registration drives in the rural South. Between 1961 and the fall of 1962, SNCC workers conducted many courageous drives in Mississippi. In December of 1962, SNCC made a major breakthrough. It managed to work with the Albany movement to mobilize hundreds of blacks to fill the jails. The protest in Albany were against the city's segregation laws. Later Dr. King was brought in and national attention came to the issue. This was the first time SNCC, a student group, had moved masses of poor blacks in the rural South. Albany soon became a prototype for later actions in 1963.

In the North, another student formation began to take place. In the fall of 1961, black students at Central State College in Wilberforce, Ohio who had been involved in the sit-ins, Freedom Rides, African nationalist organizations and the Nation of Islam began to discuss what they felt were the shortcomings of the civil rights movement. The students decided to form a political party on campus to bring about a black political awareness. As these black student revolutionaries began to formulate ideas for their party, some decided to leave school and go into Northern black communities and organize as SNCC did in Southern communities. After some debate, a name was chosen for their black student party; it was called the RAM party, later to become known as the Revolutionary Action Movement.

"1963 produced the second phase of the protest era. By spring, through efforts of SNCC and SCLC organizers, various Southern cities were seething with

# DESEGREGATE BOSTON SCHOOLS NOW KEEP THE BUSES ROLLING! STOP THE RACIST ATTACKS AGAINST BLACK STUDENTS

NATIONAL STUDENT COALITION AGAINST RACISM

Desegregation was a process that took many courtroom sessions, street fights, and many people to implement. The schools are still not racially balanced, the question that remains is, "When will they be desegregated?"

protest revolt. The turning point of mass black consciousness and for the protest movement came during the spring non-violent offensive in Birmingham, Ala. Dr. Martin Luther King, who had become the symbol of the direct action non-violent struggle through the efforts of SCLC and SNCC...pushed Birmingham to the brink. The honkies bringing out dogs, tanks, water hoses on women and children was too much for the African-Americans to stomach. Within months mass demonstrations had occurred all over the South.

In the North, in Philadelphia, RAM, working with the N.A.C.P. organized mass demonstrations against union discrimination in the building trades. The place of the demonstrations was a school construction site in the middle of North Philadelphia's black community. In a week's time, over 10,000 people participated in the demonstrations. This was the first breakthrough in the North. In New York, CORE began demonstrating at down-state northern cities with freedom marches and police brutality demonstrations.

The March on Washington which was held in late August started as a mass movement. Some 250,000 people demonstrated.

The concept of non-violence suffered setbacks among SNCC workers when four black girls were killed in the bombing of a church in Birmingham, Ala. in the fall of 1963.

RAM organized a student wing called ASM, the Afro-American Student Movement. It organized chapters in Nashville, Tenn.; Fisk University; Detroit, Mich. and Los Angeles, Calif. ASM called a student conference on Black Nationalism in May 1964.

The convening of the 1st National Afro-American Student Conference on Black Nationalism held May 1 to 4 in Nashville, Tenn., was the ideological catalyst that eventually shifted the civil rights movement into the Black Power movement. During the summer months, RAM organizers through the agreement of John Lewis, then chairman of SNCC, went into Mississippi to work with SNCC. RAM or-

ganizers soon came into conflict with white SNCC workers, who opposed an all-black force and the practice of self-defense. Soon, RAM began a movement to force whites out of SNCC.

Brother Don Freeman, in his article "Black Youth and Afro-American Liberation" in the fall 1964 edition of *Black America* describes the conference: "May 1-3, 1964, the Afro-American Student Movement representing young Nationalist groups and tendencies throughout the North and South, convened in Nashville, Tenn., to form a Black Nationalist Youth Movement...The importance of traditional or "Bourgeois" nationalism was examined. The delegates agreed that the traditional nationalist approach of rhetoric rather than action was ineffectual because it posed no programmatic alternative to "bourgeois reformist" civil rights activities...Nationalist demands for an autonomous Black American economy were termed bourgeois due to failure to differentiate such an economy from capitalism and unfeasible because of the white and Jewish capitalists' intention to perpetuate "suburban colonialism" their exploitation of Black ghettos. The consensus was the Afro-Americans must control their neighborhoods, but the realization of aim necessitates, in Rev. Albert Cleage's terms, a "strategy of chaos" involving more devastating civil disobedience than the kind undertaken by the established reformist groups."

The participants supported Minister Malcolm (X) Shabazz's contention that it is erroneous to define Afro-American's fight as "civil rights" and protest exclusively in Congress; instead, we should utilize the UN Declaration on Human Rights and petition in the United Nations for "human rights."

The young nationalist insisted that prerequisite to a genuine Black revolution is a fundamental "Cultural Revolution" - "Re-Africanization" repudiates decadent bourgeois, materialistic values and the "Rat Race" or "pathological" egoism and individualism inherent in American society. It embraces a humanism derived

tive to the African heritage which exalts authentic, intellectual, and spiritual development and "Communism" or cooperation rather than exploitation. "Re-Africanization" is preferable to American materialism as a source of cultural values. Afro-Americans must know their authentic history in Africa and America in order to demolish the "psychological rap" or inferiority instilled by American "indoctrination." The Afro-American's self-image and the conception must be revolutionized to foster a collective ethnic identity as a unique Black People before Black Nationalism can emerge triumphant...The assembled nationalists asserted that young nationalists are the vanguard of a Black Revolution in America, but they must create 1) an organizational apparatus to "translate" Nationalist ideology into effective action; this requires Black financing to insure Black control and 2) dedicated, disciplined, and decisive youth cadres willing to make the supreme sacrifices to build and sustain a dynamic Nationalist Movement.

The conference stimulated nationalist cells in the North and polarized the contradictions between white and black field workers within SNCC. The conference sent organizers into Mississippi to work with SNCC and to begin to build self-defense units. Greenwood, Miss. became a base for revolutionary black nationalist activity as the organizers worked with black field workers bringing them over to the cause of black nationalism, rather than the goal of integration. A showdown occurred in Greenville, Miss., in May at the Mississippi SNCC staff meeting. The brothers from the field staff revolted against the SNCC hierarchy then represented by Bob Moses and the white radicals.

SNCC began to involve large numbers of white students in the movement in the summer of 1964. Their involvement led to their radicalization which later they developed into the anti-war student movement.

"The crucial milestone of SNCC's road to radicalism was the Freedom Summer of 1964. Freedom Summer

grew out of a remarkable mock election sponsored by SNCC in the autumn of 1963. Because the mass of Mississippi's black population could not legally participate in choosing the state's governor that year, Robert Moses conceived a freedom election to protest mass disfranchisement and to educate Mississippi's blacks to the mechanics of the political process. COFO organized a new party called the Mississippi Freedom Democrats, printed its own ballots, and in October conducted its own poll. Overwhelming the regular party candidates, Aaron Henry, head of the state NAACP and Freedom Democratic nominee for governor, received 70,000 votes, a tremendous protest against the denial of equal political rights. One reason for the success of the project was the presence in the state of 100 Yalda and Stanford students, who worked for two weeks with SNCC on the election. SNCC was sufficiently impressed by the student contribution to consider inviting hundreds more to spend an entire summer in Mississippi. Sponsors of this plan hoped not only for workers but for publicity that might at last focus national attention on Mississippi. By the winter of 1963-64, however, rising militancy in SNCC had begun to take on overtones of black nationalism, and some of the membership resisted the summer project on the grounds that most of the volunteers would be white."

During the Freedom Summer sponsored by COFO in Mississippi, six people were killed, 80 beaten, 35 churches burned and 30 other buildings bombed. Student volunteers taught in Freedom Schools where 3,000 children attended.

"They organized the disfranchised to march on county courthouses to face unyielding registrars. Most importantly, they walked the roads of Mississippi for the Freedom Democratic Party (FDP). Denying the legitimacy of the segregated Democratic party, COFO opened the FDP to members of all races and declared the party's loyalty to Lyndon Johnson. The goal of the FDP in the summer of 1964 was to send a delegation to the

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# YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY ....

by Abi G. Bell

The hottest issues around the world today surround the Politically-turned, Moral issues, Human Rights Advocacy. From the U.N. to THE Southern regions of Afrika, to Palestine, to South America, to Iran and just about every continent that you can think of today.

During the week-end of Nov. 18, there was a rally of women in Houston, which should be of significant importance to any man or woman that firmly believes in progress rather than stagnation and confusion, today. What is this all about? It is ironical that you asked. If you are not aware of the goings-on, then rest yourself and you will find out by the time you are through reading this article. Heads are starting to roll because the women have gone on the war-path.

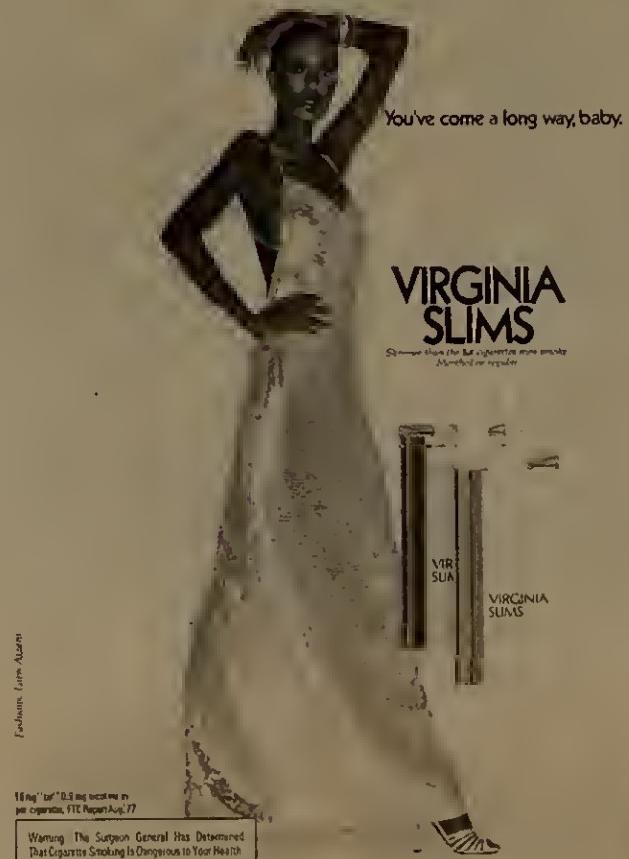
I am referring to the National Women's Conference that drew delegates from all over the world - close to 2000 in number - and many thousands spectators. It was a rally drawn in support of the Feminist Movements and the Gay rights. There was even a taped message from Anita Bryant. A big surprise.

I have often questioned some of my colleagues on issues based on the fundamental rights of individuals. The reactions have always been indifferent on issues that do not concern or may affect their individual. In as long as each of us tend to ignore the struggles of other human beings that are directly or indirectly in relevance to Human Rights advocacy, we will be constrained when our own rights are being violated. It could be in the form of verbal, physical or silent opposition. Some people will not hesitate to say that the apartheid policy AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRIKA is not their concern because of geographical positioning and some may say that gay rights or even the women's pursuit on unfair treatment against them in the sex context is not of any primal importance to them. But in discarding other people's causes, we tend to forget that mankind, especially us residing in the "civilized" world, have agreed to abide to certain ground rules, in order to have peace, security and progress.

In all western cultures and judicial systems, one could hardly find references regarding men as being inferior to itself because it will be fairly ironic to his attitude and behavior. Notwithstanding, some still claim superiority when references to pigmentation are made. For those, I will recommend some Alka-Seltzer. There is a hypothesis that the fumes could function as a dismistifier - the second of the "one-two" functions.

At this point I will quote for your convenience, the 9th Amendment of the Constitution of U.S. (Amended, 1791 A.D.) "The enumeration of certain rights, shall not be construed - (that is, shall not be interpreted) to deny or disparage (the treating with contempt) others retained by the people.

In denying women the right to equal treatment and opportunity, we are basically violating their right as people, defined in context above or as "BEINGS."



The above advertisement for Virginia Slims indicates females "have come a long way," but just how far have women come? Some women feel the ERA will only help women to regress to masculine behavior. If anything, the National Women's Conference presented both sides of the coin.

#### HISTORICAL ANALYSIS:

An English jurist called Blackstone, in the 18th century wrote, "When a man and a woman marry they become one person in law, and that person is the man." Sir William Blackstone, *Commentaries on the Laws of England*, 1765. Another Englishman, in the "Subjugation of Women" wrote, "...the principle which regulates the existing social relations between the two sexes - the legal subordination of one sex to the other - is wrong in itself, and now one of the chief hindrances to human improvement"...his name is John Stuart Mill (1869, a century later). Today; a century after Mr. Mill, the same issue is a public debate...the women of the world are battling their opposite sex for freedom from this socialization. Only this time a greater mass of women and conscientious men are fighting Legislators to pass laws protecting our female counterparts. en masse. June Konholz, a Wall Street Journal correspondent wrote in the article of Nov. 22, 1977,

"Women's Movement Takes Over Houston for 3 Lively Days" ...The women attending were asked to draft a legislative plan that would assure full equality for women...resolutions that include calls for expanded child-care centers, the right to abortion, shelters for battered wives, and the elimination of discrimination in education, employment, insurance and other areas...such is the extent

to which our women are discriminated against, even at this day and age of advance, knowledge and technology.

In America today within which I will restrict this article, the fight is aimed at amending the Constitution of the U.S.A...The Equal Rights Amendment: It reads, "Equality of rights under the Law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex." Versions of this amendment have been introduced in Congress yearly since 1923. In March 1972, the current version was finally passed. The passage and the subsequent ratifications, an official approval, by state legislatures attest to the growing strength and persuasiveness of the various women's movements around the country. A total of 38 states have to approve the amendment before it becomes law, and 35 have done so to date. There is a deadline currently set for March 1979.

#### WHY CHOOSE THE CONSTITUTION

There is no better approach or rather, means available to the Feminist advocates to seek change and conformity towards respecting their human rights, within the legal framework. The constitution of the United States, its composition and functioning best serves this purpose. It was designed to serve as the fundamental law of the land...which is very broad and general in definition. It is made current through the

interpretation and pronunciation of and statute by the courts. Once the ERA has been ratified the states will have two years to conform their laws to its dictates. This has been the basis for the hot debate - opponents argue that it would rob women of femininity. K.F. Clarenbach writes, in "Women in Legal Perspective." (In the book, "Beyond Intellectual Sexism - A New Woman A New Reality," by J.L. Roberts)...the ERA has been hotly debated: its opponents argue that it would rob women of femininity, result in scandalous use of the same public rest rooms by both sexes, and subject women to the draft. In fact, the responsible legal opinion states that the amendment would require the federal and state governments and branches thereof to treat men and women equally. The usual legal tests would be used to measure state action in regard to sex equality. With respect to the rest room question, for example, rights of personal privacy would control so that separate facilities could be maintained. Possible draftability of women is

unclear, as is the suggestion that they be required to participate in armed combat...

#### CAN LITIGATION BE USED TOWARDS ACHIEVING EQUALITY?

Women have gone to courts in order to fight sex-based discrimination in the past, and this is in the increase these days, especially in organized fashions, encouraged and abetted by the various women's groups and movements all over the country, in general. It is believed that Case law is a well-defined alternative approach to changing the norms in law. Class action is utilized at its full advantage, and a number of significant cases have been won.

The important issue under this discussion is that more women have to understand the law in order to effectively use it in their defense in court. That is using the legal system to force the law to bring changes. Although this is a means, one can hardly disregard the cost factors involved; legal expenses and delay tactics. So it will be unwise to maintain just this strategy but also explore, as well as exploit other channels.

## Black Student stands for B.S.??

by John W. Moses III

Yeah, that's right, black Northeastern students are full of the obvious and also suffer from severe cases of individualism.

We as students have got to realize that we are a black community within a black community. That's right, the black people across the tracks are the same black people as we. We can no longer afford to isolate ourselves from the community that surrounds us. Since the Civil War black people have fought and died so that we could someday have a seat in a university. It's kind of hard for most of us to see what it took for us to be here and took more than just money. It is especially hard because we didn't have to fight and die for the classroom seat you have today.

Students who feel what has happened in the neighboring communities don't affect them are in for a big surprise. We are spending four or five years here and are subject to the same kinds of harassment as any black in Boston. Some of us feel that since we are not faced with the day to day urban problems we don't have to worry because it doesn't really affect us. These are the same people who are secure in the city. They have been led to believe by the media that we are safe as long as we don't go to South Boston. I feel as secure as the black lawyer who got

beat with an American Flag in front of City Hall at 12 a.m. and about as secure as those black students and teachers from Pennsylvania who two weeks ago were beaten with hockey sticks, baseball bats and golf clubs. Within the past year there has been a series of unprovoked attacks on black people, many reported and yet some of us still don't get the picture. Do we have to become part of tragedy to realize that it is happening. Sisters should be most aware of these kinds of attack because they have been the majority of the victims, especially young defenseless sisters. As long as we continue to remain individuals in this society we will continue to be attacked individually.

If we can find our way to parties all over Boston, why can't we find our own Afro-American Institute. The Afro-American Institute wasn't just given to us, there were a lot of black people who fought for its existence, so let's get involved. I'm sure there are problems that are common to us all at Northeastern, whether academic or financial and if we all get together there would be less problems and more solutions.

We have an obligation to ourselves and to our communities, because what affects one of us really affects all of us.



# THE FIGURES THAT HURT SOO BADLY

by Michael Hainey  
Onyx Correspondent

The most outstanding problem jobless rate concerning black people, are related to black teenagers in America. The high crime rate of black youth has caused some considerable concern in our urban centers. Millions of dollars have gone to the building of rehabilitation centers, and juvenile treatment centers for youth, but relatively few dollars have gone to creating jobs for the 60 percent of our black youth who are unemployed. [A shocking figure for a small number of people.]

Black youths who go unemployed eventually turn into black adults with no work experience and will eventually turn into what the government's eyes are unemployed black adults who still create a burden on society. This adult unemployment impact is felt particularly within the two-parent black families supposedly by the black middle class. The married black man has really felt the unemployment crunch, as 6.5 percent, or 225,000 of the black married males were unemployed in 1977 compared to 4.3 percent or 153,000 in 1974. This has led to two-thirds of their wives working or actively seeking work in 1977 compared to less than half that amount in 1974.

The black female whose role is head of the house, has found it even more difficult to seek unemployment, as 13 percent of all female black heads of house were unemployed in 1977.

Since close to one-third of all black families are headed by black women, it is a fact that millions of black children are being raised with unemployed parents.

Contrary to the beliefs of many white social groups, particularly the middle class



Photo courtesy of Time Magazine

This elderly black woman faces the horror and danger of being injured in her unheated, unplastered apartment. Although it is true that all blacks do not live this way, one can definitely see that this woman did not ask for these hard times. They were inflicted upon her.

whites who think jobless blacks take away their hard-earned dollars, less than half of the jobless blacks did not receive unemployment benefits.

The record level for unem-

ployment and inflation rates result in the highest rates of poverty ever in America. In 1975, the total number of poor persons including whites increased to 25.9 million. Another

interesting rate is the poverty among whites increased three times further, than among blacks. While the numbers among blacks rose to 7.545,000 in 1975 the numbers of poor

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whites went up to 17,770,000.

Interesting though, the proportion of whites who were poor rose from nine to ten percent between 1974 and 1975, but the poor black proportion increased from 30 to 31 percent. Also note that 27 percent of all black families were defined as poor in comparison to 8 percent of whites.

The average income for black families rose from \$8,006 to \$8,779 but still was far from the average white family income which rose from \$13,408 to \$14,268.

Finally, the declining economy has the most devastating effect on family stability and family structure. The number of black female headed households rose by 6 percent between 1973 and 1975. Over 43 percent of our black children are in one parent families.

Social scientist studies reveal that unemployment correlates with increases in mental disorders, alcoholism, homicide, suicide, heart and unsanitary diseases which are so common to the black community.

It is also known that much needs to be done in order to develop better social and economic environments in the black community.

Not only must the white society recognize the need for these changes, but the black community particularly.

Voicing our dissatisfaction as well as showing figures, are our proof that we want jobs, better jobs and much improved social standards, instead of handouts which we are so often accused of taking, and one parent family and poor run down homes which we are seen living in.

GOOD LUCK ON  
YOUR FINAL!

ONYX

# EDITORIAL

## BLACK STUDENT PARTICIPATION IS NEEDED

As the fall quarter comes to an end, with many of us preparing for finals, and the remainder of us completing our tenure on our co-op jobs, there remains a lot to be done at Northeastern University.

We as black students here at Northeastern have a lot of accomplishments yet to achieve, and a pathmark we must set for present and future black students at the University.

There are many ways that the black student community can leave its mark on the University. Some of us would prefer to be left alone to our books, yet others come together collectively to form social organizations, be they fraternities, sororities and whatever means we find to be with each other, express our individuality and identity.

However, there is a process by which black students, can be a part of, to have a direct input into policies that affect us as students, consumers and black Americans on this campus. If black students could join in this process with other student constituencies, and make this process workable, the administration would take black students and students in general, very seriously, and perhaps come to a workable relationship in being accessible to students, allowing student input to policies, and being conscious of our needs.

The process whereby black

students can make their voice heard is through Northeastern student government, which is called the Student Federation.

The student government is supposed to be a viable representative process for all students, be they black or white. In order to make the concept of a representative student government work, student involvement by everyone is needed.

The Federation is not a clique for the elite to rub toes with the administration, but a process through which students make their grievances heard, and work to solutions remedying their gripes. Believe you me, we all have legitimate grievances at this university; please get involved in this process, it's not complicated at all.

On behalf of the Student Federation, I invite and welcome black student participation and involvement for the upcoming Winter Quarter and every quarter to come. Student Federation needs you to bring about change for students and the minority community here at Northeastern.

The first meeting for Student Federation will be Thursday, Jan. 5, 1978, during Activities Period, in Room 346 E.C. Do come, and make your voice and presence be felt.

Truly yours  
Gregory M. Smith  
Div. B.  
Student Federation  
Speaker of  
Legislative Assembly

While many other universities are reducing future promise of a home for minority programs, Northeastern University seems to be upholding some commitments to minority students while ignoring some other vital aspects of their education. Northeastern will give a student an education, but whether it is a controlled education or not is the big question.

First of all the university should learn from last year's mistake by thinking that students are aware of the different types of education that were being stressed, as opposed to some others. Every student knows the university will always lean towards those types of students who would conform to a general type education as opposed to those who request specialized types of education.

At the African-American Institute and the African-American Studies Department, students quickly noticed some of the problems created by the university administration while doing the best they could to remedy the situation for the time being. Some faculty were fired and hired and repositioned while other faculty chose not to comment at all which gave no aid to neither the student nor faculty.

After all the voices were quieted, the main question that remained was and still is, "Where are our black future institutions going in regards to Northeastern University?" If you ask any administrators they will tell you, "Yes, we made certain recommendations to President Ryder while serving on the Bratt Committees Report." Well, where are these recommendations?

As a concerned student, it would be senseless to think that the Ryder administration refuses to comment on the future direction of the Institute or the Studies Department. However, the reality involved is that not only does the university decline to discuss the nature of last year's committee on Institute, but also President Ryder has asked that the same committee be reconvened for another academic year. This will be the third year this committee has been formed.

What makes the situation even worse is the fact that if certain administrators should start having the same internal problems, the same question would probably surface again. Quite frankly, "PRESIDENT RYDER, THAT'S A SHAME."

Let us not fool ourselves, Northeastern owes any student the right to an education merely because that is what students are paying the tuition bills for. If it is impossible for the university to tell me what the future roles of the black institutions will be after three years of consideration, then one wouldn't be too sure of what to tell someone if they asked you your opinion, Northeastern University. Students need DIRECTORS, not Acting-Directors. Students need reliable and competent administrators instead of one-year stand in administrators who are doing one hell of a job just to patch up the last University administrative error. These people are human beings, not machines and it is ridiculous to think that one or two years is enough time to be effective to bring about any type of effective educational change without driving whoever is in charge "crazy."

Besides, we have a commitment to our future brothers and sisters to make sure they don't fall victim to the same educational traps that we have. To put it like a freshman said, "I don't know if I'm cut out for Northeastern and I really don't know if Northeastern's cut out for me." Maybe I should have gone elsewhere."

Happy Kwanza  
The Onyx  
would like to wish  
everyone a  
Happy Holiday  
Season



Merry Christmas

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Ed Bullins, the nation's most honored black playwright, taught several workshops at Northeastern during the past few weeks. Above: Francine Mills, Bullins, Sarah Ann Shaw, and Dana Chandler participate in panel discussion.



## HEY, ARE YOU TALKING TO ME?

# UNITED NATIONS ARMS EMBARGO ON SO. AFRICA

by Chico Holmes

If you were in the United Nations building in New York during the first week of November, you would have witnessed events that could drastically change the course of history.

After days of heated debate and closed door meetings, the United Nations Security Council came to a compromise which led to a unanimous agreement to impose a mandatory arms embargo on the racist government of South Africa. What exactly this mandatory arms embargo means is that all United Nations countries are to refuse the sale and licensing of the production of arms to South Africa.

This punitive action by the U.N. came about as an effort to combat South Africa's recent harsh crackdown on opponents of the government's racial policy of apartheid. This was the first time in the history of the United Nations that a member nation had been so chastised by the entire U.N. body.

As expected when having to take strong and decisive measures against a country with such a controversial status in the international political arena, there were many long debates and attempts at compromise before the final measure was resolved. The first call of reprimand against South Africa was an economic sanction on the country, but this proved to be an indirect contrast to the personal economic interests of the major western powers: Britain, France and the United States.

It was easy to see that this economic sanction would not be instituted because of the billions of dollars Britain and the United States has tied up in South Africa (Britain \$4 billion and the U.S. \$10 billion dollars).

Along with the British and the French ambassadors, United States UN ambassador Andrew Young, fought fervently to stop the sanction on the floor, but when



Henry Kissinger and States Chairman Julius Nyerere chat over problems concerning South Africa.

the 49 nation African block forced the measure to a vote. Young along with his French and British constituents, used his veto to make sure the measure went no further. Young, however, did want punitive action to be taken against South Africa, and after registering his veto, he worked hard with the African nations to come to a compromise as to what measure should be taken. Finally, after days of meetings and debates a compromise was met and the mandatory arms embargo was placed on South Africa.

Now more than ever, all eyes are focused on the continent of Africa. All the major powers of the world are well aware that whoever can gain the greatest influence among the leadership of the continent, will control all the wealth of the world for centuries to come. When analyzing the very important sequence of events now unfolding across Africa, it's important to ask what are the true interests of the western powers who intervene in African affairs.

The United Nations arms embargo on South Africa was imposed supposedly to

bring South Africa to its knees before the world court so that it would loosen its stranglehold on the millions of Black South Africans who are held prisoners in their own land. In Johannesburg, however, South African Prime Minister John Vorster has been preparing for this embargo for several years.

In reality the arms embargo does very little in the way of weakening South Africa. It now claims to manufacture over 75 percent of its military needs, and its defense budget rose 40 percent in 1976 and jumped another 21 percent in 1977. Also South Africa doesn't really believe that it won't be able to buy arms from those western nations that it knows hold great stock in their country's wealth.



For many students, this will be the first time they have taken a final at Northeastern University. Mid-terms are tough but finals are extremely tough, therefore the Onyx would like to say to everyone GOOD LUCK!

# BLACK ORGANIZATIONS AT N.U. Part One

**DELTA SIGMA THETA**

**ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA**

**IOTA PHI THETA**

**TOGETHER PHI TOGETHER**

**OMEGA PSI PHI**

**KAPPA ALPHA PSI**

by Delores Greenlee

This is the first part of an introduction to the black organizations on campus. The first part of this series is to include Delta Sigma Theta, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Together Phi Together, and Iota Phi Theta. Each organization was asked to give a brief summary of what they are about, when each organization was founded, what direction are they going, what have they done in the past in terms of community service, and what do they hope to do in the future.

## Delta Sigma Theta

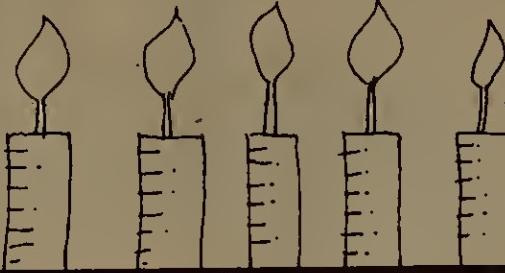
Jacquelyn Bryant, vice president, Iota Chapter Delta Sigma Theta spoke of Delta. "Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. was founded in 1913 at Howard University by 22 college women dedicated to public service that would improve the quality of life and living for all citizens." Since its inception, Delta has grown to 90,000 in membership.

The local city-wide chapter, Iota was chartered Dec. 29, 1921. Iota chapter's twenty members come from all the Boston area schools, Northeastern, Boston University, Boston College, Tufts and Wellesley.

Iota chapter's public service projects have included Halloween baskets in the children's Hospital. They also sponsored a Christmas party for young men whose parents have abandoned them, this party was held at the Hillside House. A clothes drive was held for people in Ghana. The most recent project this year was a Black College Night for area high school seniors, approximately twenty black colleges were represented. Delta Sigma Theta's next project will be a dance marathon with proceeds going to the Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation.

## Iota Phi Theta

Iota Phi began in Baltimore at Morgan State College in 1964. The local chapter, Somicron began on March 1, 1973. President David Brown said, "Brotherhood is our primary concern, the pledge program teaches brotherhood." Iota's have made a commitment to working with the Big Brother Association. Each brother is assigned to a little boy at the Children's Hospital once a week for an hour a day as a minimum. The organization is also active in the Cooper Community Center organizing community teams such as track, football, basketball, softball, and others. The boys and girls ages are about twelve years old. Projects have been discussed to work with The Harriet Tubman House. The Rums of Puerto Rico assist Iota's in fund-raising for Brutus Wright Memorial Scholarship Fund. (all black organizations on campus have contributed to this fund). The scholastic achievement award will be presented in the future to men and women involved in com-



## Happy Birthday, Onyx, You're Five Years Old

by Delores Greenlee

Since Nov. 3, 1972, the date the first ONYX was published, the tone of the newspaper has changed. The founders, Ted Thomas, Jr., Ileen Dotson, Bob Cittens started the publication in a time of political and social upheaval among blacks at N.U. It was important to them that each edition should include national and international news pieces. It was the best way of keeping Northeastern's Black community aware of the struggle of black and other oppressed people all over the world. The news staff covered rallies where activist Angela Davis spoke, editorialized Richard Nixon's brutal defeat of George McGovern in the winter of 1972, and Idi Amin's expulsion of Asians in Uganda. A full-page story of the Portuguese massacre of innocent people in Mozambique and supported the boycott of

Portuguese products. The ONYX took political standpoints, it was a very controversial newspaper.

Professor Caroline Ackerman was previously very supportive of the ONYX, now the interest is changing from Prof. Ackerman to Professor Kirtz both of the journalism department. The ONYX has a mailing list of 600 to 700 all over the country and has gained wide acclaim from professionals nationally as well as internationally. The applause the ONYX received in its beginning has calmed down somewhat, as the voice of the ONYX has also calmed. 1974 to 1977 has brought about a change in administration as well as staff. Students who are writing for the ONYX are now coming in from the suburbs as students previously writing were from the city. Has the tone

of the ONYX changed because the backgrounds of the reporters have changed? Or is it that there is no longer a struggle on this campus and in the world for oppressed people? I see the interests of the black students changing. Should the ONYX change with the nonchalant attitudes of the black student body?

The ONYX was developed through the African-American Institute when the Institute was in an uproar. The Institute is still in that state, as well as the African-American Studies Department. The ONYX has been the only means of communication between black students. When all else is gone, what will the students have? Without support, the ONYX will be gone just like everything else the black students of the late '60's and early '70's worked and fought so hard to get.

munity activities. Iota Phi Theta assisted the Campus Police Department along with the other fraternities and sororities in sending ten children to camp recommended by Officer Bob Cray. An intergreek affair was given to raise the money. In the future, this organization hopes to increase the amount of children sent to camp, and to have more benefit functions.

## Kappa Alpha Psi

Kappa Alpha Psi, the men in Crimson and Cream, began nationally in 1911. There are two chapters in Boston at this time. Chi chapter beginning in 1923, services Boston University but any school can pledge either chapter. The other chapter is Theta Iota, formed in October 1975 at M.I.T. Their advisor is Dr. Robert Hayes of Northeastern.

These men are highly motivated people, they are a mixture of both social and community organization, but non-profitable. Ted Austell, President of Theta Iota chapter remarked, "We try to do the best at whatever we do." The organization stresses a feeling of unity and takes it out to the community. In terms of community involvement, President of Chi chapter, Chuck Roberts says, "We try to touch young people and get them to think along the lines of achieve-

ment." Kappa Alpha Psi offered tutoring programs at St. Paul's Church in Cambridge aimed at students in the 4th through 9th grades. Tutoring in math, science, English, etc. Have had food and clothing drives to benefit the needy in the Boston area. Presently there is an NAACP membership drive. Also, a Student Revolving Loan Fund which distributes money for students at B.U. who need an emergency loan. In the future we can expect the annual Kappa Ball with some funds going to charity. The Kappa's also hope to sponsor a bus to the Penn Relays. The Grand Conclave will be held in Denver, Colorado, this year from Dec. 26 through the 31st. Dec. 10, a Christmas Cabaret will be held at the Harriet Tubman House.

## Alpha Kappa Alpha

On Jan. 15, 1908, a group of young women at Howard University initiated the movement of Greek-letter sororities among black women in America. Thus Alpha Kappa Alpha became the first Greek lettered organization established among women. The sorority has grown to a membership of more than 75,000 college women throughout the nation and outside continental U.S.A. (Africa, Vir-

gin Islands).

President of Iota Gamma Chapter, Jean Hall said the direction "through the years Alpha Kappa Alpha's program has had as its chief aim service to all mankind." Iota Gamma Chapter is the campus chapter at Northeastern University, they received their charter on June 8, 1974. There are three undergraduate chapters and one graduate chapter. Epsilon Chapter, the first undergraduate chapter was started in 1924, also known as the city chapter of Boston. The newest chapter was chartered this October on M.I.T.'s campus.

Iota Gamma is currently involved in raising funds for organizations such as the United Negro College Fund and the NAACP. The sisters work with the Putnam Day Care Center. Last Easter the organization sponsored an Easter Egg Hunt and party for the children. For the Christmas season they plan to have a Christmas party for the children. On Saturdays the Sorors work with the Martin Luther King Scholarship Association. The program attempts to broaden the interests socially, culturally, and politically of girls and boys ranging in ages from 4 to 17. AKA's were also involved in the John D. O'Bryant campaign. Other involvements include work with the Big Sister-Little Sister program, tutoring at Boston Trade High School, clothes drives and book drives. A \$50 book voucher is given away at the beginning of

each quarter to a student deemed worthy by the Office of Financial Aid. Future plans include a greater expansion in the Boston Community, in health, education, child care and politics.

## Together Phi Together

Together Phi Together is an alternative to fraternities and sororities the social organization has both men and women as members. The social organization was started by 18 men that hung out and studied together, on Feb. 20, 1973. Woody Johnston speaks of the 18 men, "We wanted to give a social, intellectual, and academic atmosphere on Northeastern's campus different from fraternities and sororities."

To pledge the social organization, one must have a 2.5 before interviews, no physical harassment and three campus and three community projects must be completed before becoming a member. A Children's Festival at the African-American Institute in the Spring of 1976 was just one of the community projects completed. The festival took children out of the community, fed them, and let the children know that N.U. cares about them. The program received high recommendations from the University. A book drive was held for the Institute. Books that people would have sold back to the Bookstore, were instead donated to the Institute Library. Money was given to the Rhonda Kato and Skip Wright Memorial Funds. A yearly paper drive for the Boston Animal Rescue League was held, along with a canned food drive for the Fenway Project. This project helped Senior Citizens who were unable to feed themselves. A \$100 donation was also given to the project.

Projects upcoming include a line in January, a formal dance in the spring, a Blood Drive in the winter to detect the number one killer of blacks, Hypertension. The Blood Drive is given in conjunction with Northeastern's Health Department, and Boston Public Health.

## Omega Psi Phi

Omega Psi Phi means friendship essential to your soul, which is also the fraternity's motto. Omega Psi Phi began nationally on Nov. 17, 1911 and was incorporated in 1914. Boston's city chapter, Gamma Chapter was started Dec. 13, 1960. The Four Cardinal Principles: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Upift are emphasized throughout the pledge period to carry out through life. Karl Coiscou believes the fraternity strives for, "Black awareness in men of Omega and the community, more unity among blacks, more political standpoints, and working to achieve a common goal. Getting on a higher plane."

Omega's were active in the John O'Bryant campaign, the

Cont. on pg. 15

## THE N.U. MUSIC MACHINE WRBB 91.7 ON YOUR DIAL

by Delores Creenlee

WRBB and Souls Place, located 91.7 on the F.M. Dial is an alternative to A.M. listening, as WILD and others are commercial stations. WRBB is informative, and involved in the community.

Souls Place was founded by three brothers, Mike "Hat" Williams, now doing a talk show with WRKO, Jimmy Martin, previously with WILD and Robert Margenson, in 1972. It started just on a weekend basis, then in the fall of 1974 Souls Place was aired six days a week during prime time hours. The radio station, previously run by whites, the brothers felt the station failed to serve the black students and the communities' needs, positions turned, developing Souls Place. There are still a large number of whites in news, public service, etc. The doors are open for all students.

Souls Place would like to run 24 hours a day, but need more qualified people to join the station. Woody Johnston, Jr., Div. B General Manager is looking for people for news, public services, engineering, business' positions, all positions.

To be a part of the station, one must first be voted in as a member, then obtain an F.C.C. Third Class license, must also have an on the air clearance, production clearance, and an engineering clearance which would allow full voting rights. A class is being taught every Saturday at 1 p.m. by Harold Austin, and Harold Williams at the station on the fourth floor of the Ell Center to obtain an F.C.C. Third Class license. Must be full time student.

WRBB has a lot of diversified shows to fit the needs of almost every student on campus:

Glendale Reid - Roegae Show

Most popular show is the Gospel Show on Sundays, done by Clement Smiley.

A Spanish Show with Hector and Julio, dealing with music, local happenings, and involvement in the Spanish Community is still expanding.

Jimmy Yee has a show called Memory Lane, which plays Oldie Goldies. WRKO donated a large amount of Oldies to WRBB.

A Rock Show is done by Boe Murphy, Alan May and Richard Snow.

First World News, news for the Black Community with a black perspective was the first started by Charmagne Cook and Barry Cox, director now is Chico Holmes and Spencer Becton. A very informative newscast.

News Desk 91, producer Kevin Thomas, runs a half hour of news daily.

A Sports Talk Show is done by Mike Haney.

A program called "All Africa Standing Up" addresses issues like the Bokke Case, Big Businesses, Steven Biko, and other things of concern to the Black Community.

WRBB and Souls Place provide Community Service. Last year Souls Place broad-



SOUL'S PLACE	Tues. - 7-11 p.m.
PAUL PORTER	Sun. nite-Mon. 12-3 a.m.
RON SCOTT	Sun. 7 a.m.-10 a.m.
	Wed. - 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
	Fri. - 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
CLEMENT SMILEY	GOSPEL SHOW
CELEBRATIONS	2 p.m.-5 p.m.
KOKAYI - CELEBRATIONS	Thurs. - 2 p.m.-6 p.m.
VISIONS	Tues. 11 p.m.-3 a.m.
JOE MYERS - CELEBRATIONS	Wed. - 2-6 p.m.
FRAN SCARVER - SOUL'S PLACE	Thurs. - 11-3 a.m.
	Mon. - 6-11 p.m.
CHARIS	Sat. - 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
OLDEN WAGNER	Tues. - 7 a.m.-10 a.m.
ALL AFRICA STAND-UP	Fri. - 7 a.m.-10 a.m.
BRIAN THOMAS	Sun. - 5-6 p.m.
HAROLD WILLIAMS - SOUL'S PLACE	Sun. - 6-8 p.m.
COSMIC G [GREG]	Sun. - 8-12 a.m.
BOB MURPHY	Mon. - 7-10 a.m.
NEWS DESK	Mon.-Fri. - 6-6:30 p.m.
FIRST WORLD	Mon. & Thurs. - 6:30-7 p.m.
CHICO HOLMES [HIMSELF]	Tues. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
INSIDE SPORTS	Tues. & Fri. - 6:30-7 p.m.
V RICH SNOW	7-10 a.m.
MIND POWER [Tony VanDerMeer & Michael Gilbert]	Wed. - 6:30-7 p.m.
HAROLD AUSTIN [BABES] - SOUL's PLACE	Weds. - 7-11 p.m.
ALAN MAY	Thurs. - 7-10 a.m.
C.B. - SOUL'S PLACE	Thurs. - 7-11 p.m.
DON WINTERS - CELEBRATIONS	Fri. - 2-6 p.m.
SPENCER BECTON - SOUL'S PLACE	Fri. - 7-11 p.m.
HAROLD SEALS	Fri. - 11-3 a.m.
FOOTBALL GAMES	Sat. - 2-5 p.m.
"AMIGOS" - SPANISH SHOW	Sat. - 5-8 p.m.
JAMES YEE - OLDIES	Sat. 8 p.m.-12 a.m.
ROCK	Sat. nite-Sun. a.m. 12-4 a.m.
WAR-DELL BALDWIN	Sun. - 4-9 a.m.
CALIGA	Sat. - 3-7 a.m.

casted the Roxbury YMCA and Voter Registration Drive basketball game. Souls Place had a benefit basketball game with WTBS and donated the proceeds. They also sponsored a Blood Drive. Souls Place played basketball with one of the area high schools to promote the community and let them know the University Community cares. Souls Place broadcast live, the Kite Festival at Franklin Park where approximately 50,000 people attended. Albums, tickets, tee-shirts, etc., were given away. African Heritage Day was also covered live from White Stadium.

Harold Austin, program director for Souls Place says, "We would like to continue to get into the community and get feedback, as we grow, the community will grow."

WRBB has asked for a larger

budget this year to dispose of the antiquated equipment and furniture, to be replaced with new equipment or at least repaired. Souls Place has proven to be successful, they have won recognition from stations such as WILD, WRKO, Channel 5, and from competing college stations. The station would like to progress and expand, the members are very serious about bettering WRBB and Souls Place. This expansion would be very constructive for the black student body and the community. WILD stops airing at 4 p.m. during the winter months, so without a Souls Place there would be no communication with blacks until 7 a.m. the next day. With more people and better equipment WRBB will be able to run 24 hours a day, keeping in contact with the black community.

## Guest Commentary

### DO BLACK STUDENTS CARE ABOUT THE COMING GENERATIONS?

by Anthony Van Der Meer

Onyx Contributor

When one sits down and views the history of black people's struggle over the past 20 years, and relate it to the present situation of black, the question that comes to mind: DO WE CARE ABOUT THE NEXT GENERATION?

Black people like sister Ella Baker, Robert Williams, Akbar Mohammed Ahmed, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X shed blood, sweat and tears and some gave their lives, so that the generation coming [us] could have a better life. These freedom fighters made endless sacrifices so that we could get better jobs; a better education, better housing, better health care, and be treated like human beings.

But what are the results of their struggle? Today, students are graduating from high schools and college that cannot read or write properly. "Mis-education" is a common thing of black people, in fact they do not know who some of the Freedom Fighters are.

Life in the black community is very hard! Health care in the black community is very poor! The unemployment rate for black people is high! High school and college students are very dumb in relation to the knowledge of their history.

The point is that these Freedom Fighters were concerned about the coming generation, and they struggled for change. They, too, were concerned about the coming generation.

But are black students of today concerned about the coming generation? If not, why not? If so then why are we still being miseducated? Why are our little brothers and sisters still watching Tarzan where the white man controls the jungle? (white supremacy) Why are they watching IStS who is portrayed as being white, especially when she was a black Egyptian goddess????!! Why are we letting an outcast like Allan Bakke claim "reverse" discrimination; threatening the special programs and Affirmative Action that black people won through struggle over the past 20 years.

Why are the students

killing themselves by partying, snorting cocaine for their brain, screwing until they can't be screwed, fighting themselves as if there isn't somebody else stepping on their necks?? And also, why are these contradictions so common at a time when black people cannot find work, when money hungry white people are killing women, children, and men in South Africa??? The United States government permits television stations to sell the Kruggerand with a large percentage going to the murderous South African government, especially when this government (America) advocates Black Majority rule. (Will the real government please stand up!!!)

Do students think that the Neutron Bomb is for flies and that Jimmy Carter is for Human Rights and things go better with coke or that freedom is free?? What do students think this government will do to them if they would kill a non-violent man like Martin Luther King, Jr.? Just look how they dropped the atomic bombs on the Japanese people, and damn near exterminated the native Americans. Look how they brought black people over here!!! Check out how they killed Fred Hampton and George Jackson. Why was the United States government in Vietnam, those people never did anything to America.

Why in 1977 one can hear people say, "I'm looking out for Self." What about the children of tomorrow?? Marvin Gaye said, "Save the Children," what happened? Is a \$25,000 job our biggest aspiration? Is the look of Essence and C.Q. magazine more important than black people having Human Rights? (Black Power and Self-Determination)

Brothers and Sisters Please Wake Up!!!! Time is running out. Just think, if the U.S. Government wanted to, they can take a vote and put us back in physical slavery! They already have chains on our brains. Richard Pryor asked, "How long will this bullshit go on?" The answer is up to you. Oare to struggle and dare to win. Remember, if there is no struggle, there will be no progress. Stay strong.

**THE ONYX NEEDS YOU!!**  
Come to room 449 Ell Center and lend a helpful hand!

# BLACK ARTS



## FOR COLORED GIRLS...WHO HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE RAINBOW IS ENUF

by....Ntozake Shange  
Directed by....Oz Scott

Anthony Jenkins  
Onyx Correspondent

If complaints about the conflicts that exist between black men and black women are the kind of entertainment you enjoy, then For Colored Girls is definitely the play you want to see.

For Colored Girls, written by Ntozake Shange is a play that explains why Colored Girls have considered suicide when the rainbow is enough!!! Each character which is portrayed by an individual color representing each color in the spectrum of a rainbow. Each black female character has their own city, and story about the good and bad aspects involved in dealing with the black men of today.

While the play admits that black women can achieve varied instances of enjoyment which sometimes prove beneficial to the black woman, the play often depicts black men as a race of beings that have promised everything to black women except building mountains for them. Or as one of the Ladies of the Rainbow put it. "that nigger don't give me nothin' but good looking smiles and instances of passionate lovemaking that make me feel good; "alllll over."

But Colored Girls was not just a play of complaints about black men, the play took the viewer through three developmental stages in a black woman's life.

The childhood version was displayed by playing pattycakes on the sidewalks, and jumping rope.

The teenage stage was displayed through girl talk about who they were grinding with at the last party, and how that nigger "felt so fine." Group singing with Martha and the Vandellas and calypso music were instances where Paula Moss, choreographer, showed For Colored Girls had a professional group of dancers that could act as well.

The adult stage was presented in somewhat of a crude fashion. All the actresses went into how some black man had once loved them passionately while portraying themselves to be vulnerable females at their lover's side. All three characterizations proved that the play was well written as well as directed.

For Colored Girls, was equally centered around the seven colors of the rainbow. The play was symbolic in the sense that black men represented the rainbow and that once all the individual colors began to tell their stories, all

the different colors got together and posed the question; "Is this what we want for ourselves?"

Tranzana Beverley who played the Lady in Red wanted so far as to spread her thighs completely open while simulating a violent act of intercourse in front of the audience. Beverley moaned and groaned so convincingly that one began to feel the heat that was being projected throughout. All of a sudden Beverley cried out and denounced her love and as she finished the audience let out an applause that could be heard from the theater to Park St. Miss Beverley recreates the role which won her a Tony Award for the Best Featured Actress.

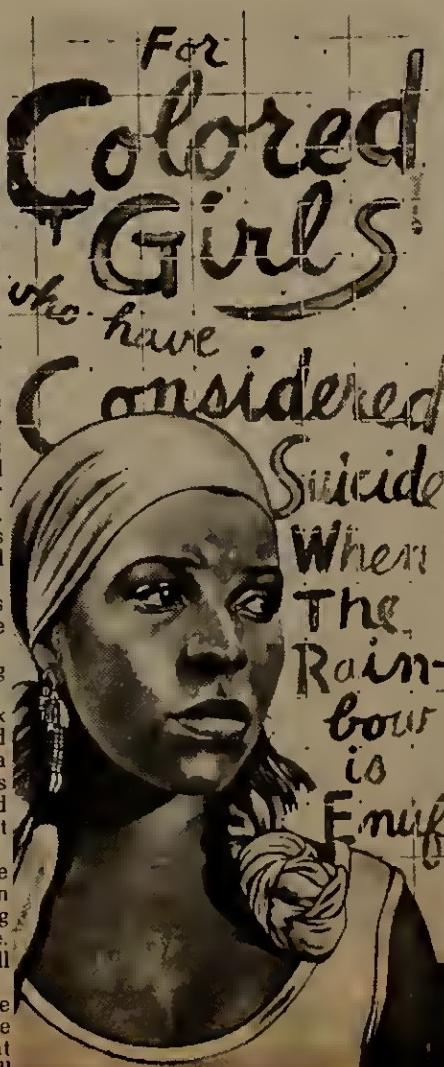
The cast continued to display many techniques of professional acting and play production that seem to explain why For Colored Girls stayed on Broadway for so many years before coming to Boston. Brenda Davis who played the Lady in Green was a character who fantasized about dancing to calypso music up in Harlem while loving a mysterious man named Willie Cologne. The play stretched far back into the early 1950's.

Paula Larke was the most astonishing actress of the performance who left the audience breathless with sensuous tales of fast paced life in New Orleans while keeping her story telling in perfect rhythm with some jazz that was being played in the background. Larke portrayed the Lady in Blue and although her slender, pale figure offered some questions as to her particular desires of certain black males, her vulgar stories, left no doubt that she was quite some female with some wild and intimate desires.

The audience really became amused when the actresses talked about how niggers always say they're sorry. "You that nigger of mine ain't no good, did I tell you about the time he and five of his friends tried to run a train on me? Well, when I got mad he came back weeks later talkin' bout, Baby I'm sorry, Baby I'm sorry....Well Hell, I'm sorry, too."

Aside from the individual dialogues, For Colored Girls depicted black women as a cross between sophisticated and normal black women which the actresses handled quite easily. Many times the Lady in Red would give a two-minute dialogue on what the problem in the relationship was while taking fifteen seconds to say define the same relationship as like; "He's just a jive dirty nigger who don't care nothin' 'bout me."

Although it is hard to stay in your seat for any 1½ hour performance, For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf keeps one glued to the seat simply because it is a good performance that speaks to both black men and women and if there's anything we both need, nowadays, it's a good talking to.



## "SWEET LOU"

by Gregory M. Smith  
Onyx Correspondent

The weekend of Friday, Nov. 18 through Sunday, Nov. 20, 1977, Lou Rawls was in town at Berklae Performance Center, doing a pre-Broadway performance.

The second show of the Saturday, Nov. 19 concert was filled to capacity. Lou wasted no time. Immediately coming forth on stage, the entertainer opened his act with a song called "This Song Will Last Forever," sort of a prelude for the audience to expect a worthy performance.

Picking up the pace, Lou sang a song called, "Groovy People," and launched right into a new hit from his new album called, "Trade Winds," a Robarte Flack tune.

Bringing back old memories, Lou sang a melody of hits that first established him many years ago as a top-notch performer. The audience responded to Rawls' maladies of "Deed End Street," "Natural Men" and "Love Is A Hurtin Thing," by applauding his choice of each selection.

Afterwards, Rawls, and the orchestra backing him, began a tribute to pioneers in the music field by employing a screen of pictures of different performers and by playing instrumental tunes from the Big Bands Era.

However, when Rawls began an impersonation of Nat King Cole's "Unforgettable" and "Mona Lisa," the show really began to pick up. Not stopping there, Rawls sang a song in tribute to Duke Ellington and managed to pull off a good

impersonation of Armstrong with a rendition of a melody of Armstrong's hits, such as "Mack the Knife," "Hello, Dolly" and "When the Saints Come Marching In."

Just as Rawls brought the audience to its peak of involvement and attentiveness, the show was interrupted for a 15-minute intermission.

Beginning the second half of the show, the MFSA Band from Philadelphia International Sound did a hurried instrumental rendition of hits that establish the "Philly Sound," such as: "Bad Luck," "For the Love of Money," "The Backstabbers," "When Will I See You Again" and "Love Train."

Slowing the tempo down by adding a mellow beat to the show, Rawls sang an assortment of songs from one of his recent albums, notably, "See You When I Get There" and "Early Morning Love."

Injecting a bit of humor into the show, Rawls sang a jazz-blues tune called "The Che Guevara Blues," signifying the ups and downs in a relationship. Ending the show on a serious note, Rawls left a somber tone on the audience with his version of "Send in the Clowns," and picked up the tempo again with his big hit, "You'll Never Find Another Love Like Mine."

All in all, Rawls' performance was good, and well worth seeing. Rawls is a very intimate type of performer who gets across to his audience that he cares and that entertaining is what he is all about.

## ARTS

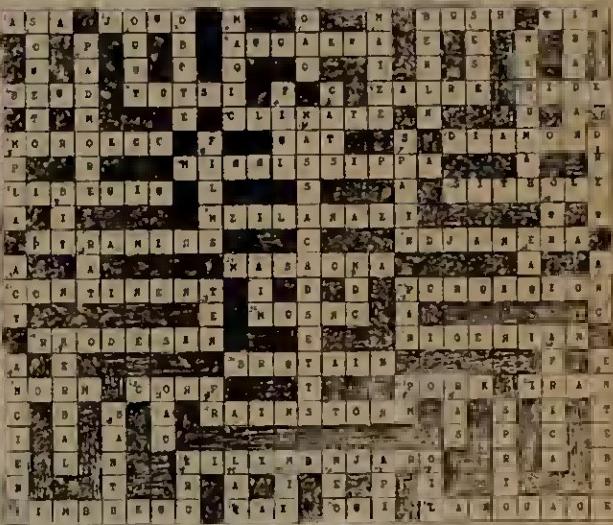
### ACROSS

- A country on the Horn.
- Once was northern Rhodesia.
- Ground Nut.
- Watutai's are.
- A country that rhymes with BAD.
- Sow.
- Young Swine.
- Gogo.
- Ancient iron smelting capital in Ethiopia.
- Brother. (abbr.)
- Long long.
- Elephant's tooth.
- Idi Amin —.
- Africa's tallest mountain.
- A traditional form of worship.
- Singers in Africa often.
- The Kongo was colonized by.
- Striped Ass.
- The largest black ghetto in the world.
- Patriotic zeal.
- Engulfed by Senegal.
- Is polluted in big cities.
- A Soccar needs a good.
- South West Africa is.
- Chaka caused many.
- Amount obtained. (rhymes with coma.)
- For a smell.
- Ghana's leading traditional language.
- When mosquitoes bite.
- The Freedom Fighters want to.
- A cock's mata.
- South Africa (abbr.)
- African Unity (abbr.)
- Fernando.
- A town in the Northern Region of Ghana.
- All Africanism.
- Ojukwu fought to liberate.
- Hastings Bende rules.
- Another word for new.
- To move about in South Africa blacks need.
- Souvenirs are for.
- Tin comes from.
- Medicine men were traditional.
- To whirl fest.
- Ancient Thebes of Egypt is now called.
- A delicious soup in West Africa.

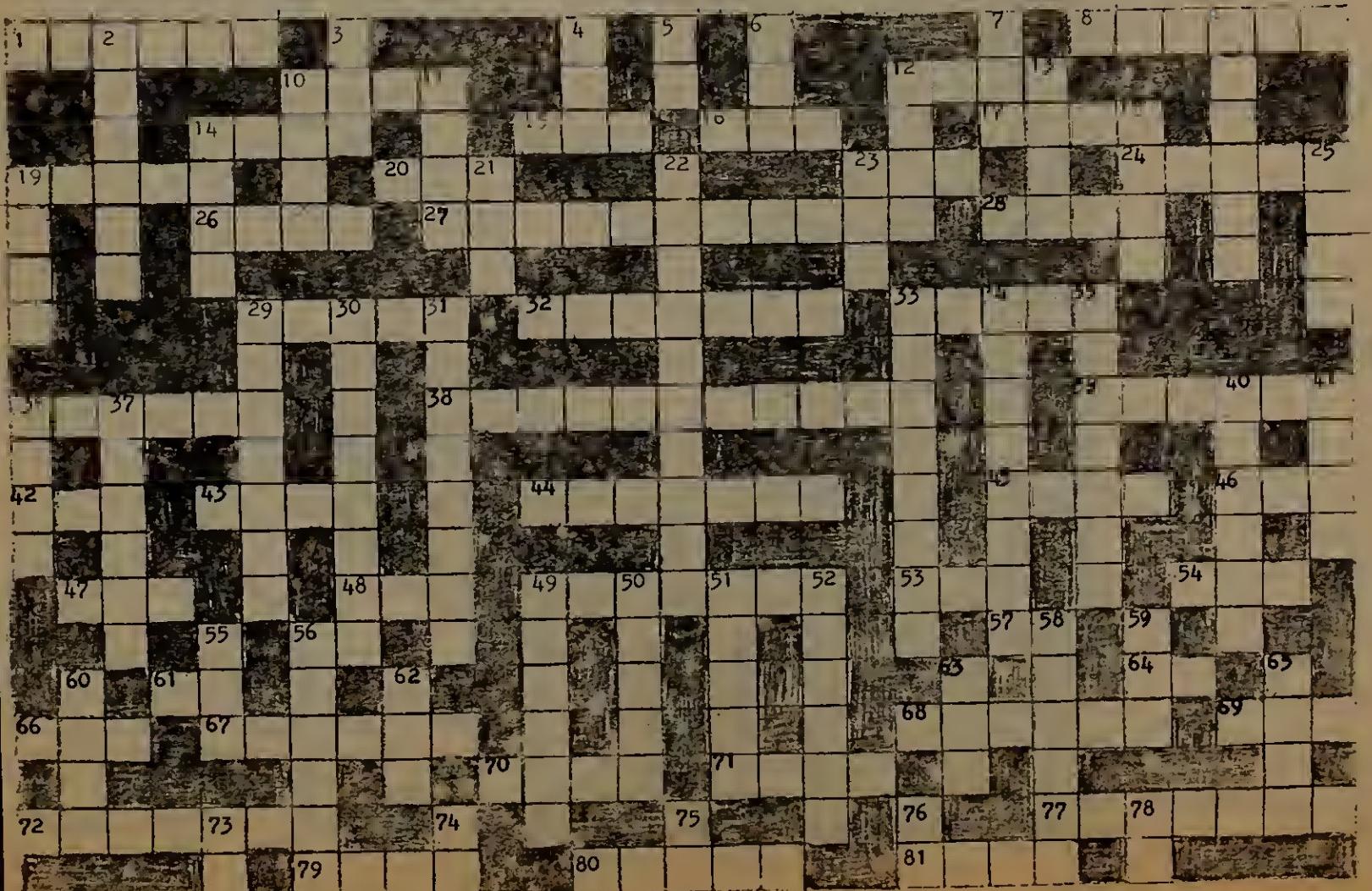
### DOWN

- They invaded Spain.
  - To worship a.
  - Where animals are imprisoned.
  - A language in Ghana.
  - After Obote, came.
  - River blindness comes from a.
  - A town in Ghana's Eastern Region.
  - Omani Ruler of Zanzibar.
  - Forbidden to eat.
  - Lome is the capital of.
  - A very fertile.
  - Ghanian Currency.
  - Guinea Republics Currency.
  - Bamako is the capital of.
  - Nigeria produces.
  - A lake in Tanzania.
  - Africa has given the world an abundance of.
  - In the — of our Lord.
  - An infectious disease (like diarrhea).
  - Ghana's oldest Secondary School.
  - Mwelimu rules.
  - A name for Rhodesia.
  - Buccannaland is now called.
  - Algiers is in.
  - In Ghana's flag there is e.
  - Unions of Labor are designed to protect tha.
  - Something to weave.
  - South Africa has e powerf.
  - The Ashanti's beheaded.
  - Nigerie's largest city.
  - In Africa people observe strict funeral.
  - UNITA, FMLA, MPLA.
  - To cry is to.
  - Nigeria is divided into.
  - The Kabake's ruled in what is now.
  - The Ashanti Language.
  - To Muslims, Baba means.
  - National Redemption Council of Ghana.
  - Headquartered in Addis Ababa Ethiopia.
  - Filled with —.
  - That is. (abbr.)
  - United World body.
  - Castrated bull.
  - Capital of Ghan's Volta Region.
  - Company (abbr.)
- First World Crossword Puzzles  
Olon Atu Godare, 1977

### ANSWERS TO LAST ISSUE'S PUZZLE



## CROSSROADS PUZZLE



# O'BRYANT IS ELECTED

by Gregory M. Smith  
Onyx Correspondent

On Tuesday, Nov. 8, 1977, the Boston voters elected a black to its unprogressive School Committee. Secondly, the voters ousted three symbols of the bastion of racism and segregation that has beset Boston. Finally, the Calvin Bill, a plan to insure city district representation in City Council and the School Committee was defeated by a narrow margin of votes.

John D. O'Bryant, an unsuccessful candidate in 1975 for the School Committee, can attribute his victory to experience of campaigning for the position before, enabling O'Bryant to establish a name in recognition with the voters. O'Bryant's experience as a teacher and counselor for fifteen years enhanced his credibility as a viable candidate. Surely, O'Bryant received adequate media coverage from both print (newspaper) and electronic press (TV and radio ads).

O'Bryant aggressively campaigned in the conservative white residential areas of Hyde Park, West Roxbury, Roslindale and the North End. Adopting a campaign plan known as the "Ten Family Plan" as part of his strategy, volunteers were responsible for recruiting ten families from one block to register to vote, and to support O'Bryant in the September and November elections. Thus finishing fourth out of five in the race for School Committee is a first for a black man this century.

Not to be forgotten for their first time showing is Bruce Bolling and Arnie Waters candidacy for the City Council. Both men made it through the primary, but did not fare well in the November election. Bolling finished sixteenth out of a field of eighteen candidates. Waters finished fourteenth, separated by two thousand votes from John Kerrigan.

In interviews with Bolling and Waters, both stated the crucial factor affecting their campaign, was lack of funds, both candidates were broke one to two weeks before the election. Secondly, both candidates mentioned that they put too much emphasis on advertising in daily newspapers and should have used television advertising more. Thirdly, both mentioned they lacked the experience of O'Bryant and were not viewed as winning candidates by the media.

It might be added, Waters has to concentrate more in the conservative sections of the city, since the liberal white and black vote was not enough votes to put him in the running. Bolling on the other hand has to not just concentrate in the black community, but liberal and conservative white areas as well. Both will run again in 1979.

The upset of the year was Louise Day Hicks being ousted from the City Council. Hicks split with Pixie Palladino and East Boston residents hurt her. In addition, State Senator Ray Flynn was a formidable candidate from Southie who Hicks took lightly which proved detrimental to her campaign.

Besides the factors mentioned, anti-busy viewed Hicks' alliance with Mayor Kevin White suspiciously. Pixie Palladino was to go if someone else from the School Committee was to be ousted to make way for O'Bryant. Palladino was viewed as a shallow one-issue busing candidate. John Kerrigan was definitely damaged by charges of padding the city payroll with no-show employees, which diminished Kerrigan's reputation.

The Calvin Plan was a bill proposed by State Senator William Calvin (Brighton), to insure all city districts an opportunity of electing district representatives to the City Council and School Committee, along with a few at-large representatives for both city government bodies.

The Calvin Plan was defeated for a variety of reasons. Anti-busing candid-



VICTORY AT LAST!

John O'Bryant and family try to say thank you to the many thousands of supporters.

dates such as Hicks, Kerrigan and Palladino, portrayed the plan negatively to a racial issue, stating if the Plan was supported and passed by the voters, the neighborhoods would lose representation to liberal and black councilmen and school committeemen. Mayor White got his supporters to

undermine the value of district representation, in addition inadequate press coverage of the plan was given.

Arnie Waters also stated the Calvin referendum was placed awkwardly on the ballot for voters to visibly miss the bill. The proponents of the Calvin Plan failed to mobilize supporters and po-

tential supporters by taking some groups' support for granted such as the black electorate of Boston who stood to gain from the bill.

While we gained token representation to the School Committee, black voters of Boston will surely miss not having Bolling and/or Waters representing them in the City Council.



Arnie Waters ponders his future concerning City Council elections in future years.

BAKKE  
from pg. 2

criminated in the post by both the educational and economic institutions of America. How else can blacks and other minorities gain passage to higher educational institutions, the professions, and the job market if there is no means of implementation of civil rights gains?

It can be further stated that you cannot measure one's qualifications through objective measures. To say if a minority lacking the same qualification of many whites, will or will not make a good doctor or a good lawyer, when consideration of one's character, environment and background, sensitivity to relate to people who are the repressed and oppressed of a similar background like black people is a very tough idea to judge.

Furthermore, as one's geographical, social and economic background has come into play, many admissions officers consider who to admit and who not to admit. Can it then be that much different to consider blacks and other minorities who have been denied access to educational and employment opportunities as late as the past ten years? Lastly as some of the proponents of affirmative action goals and programs point out, is it right that professional schools allow the existence of Dean's special admission programs that allow children of politically and wealthy supporters the right to enter these schools?

The underlying issue behind the Bakke issue comes down to "economics" and monopolization on the part by professional associations and professional schools in its control over the number of applicants to be admitted in professional schools and the actual professions.

Blacks and minorities are now the innocent victims of the economy who will be sacrificed by the educational, economical and political institutions in place of the sons and daughters of lawyers, doctors, engineers, nurses and other representatives of the powers that be. White America does not want to make room for us in the professions or in any other area where we might be viewed as a threat by the system.

This is not entirely a racial issue as it has been made out to be by the press, the courts and the different special interest groups. What really is being overlooked is how con professional schools and associations continue to dictate to the American consumers, who and how many can be what and where! After all there is a shortage of doctors and other professionals, be they black or white in poor rural and ghetto areas. Surely, the American consumers really do not know how they are being short-changed medically, legally and any other way.

Unfortunately, we as a people in the event of an unfavorable ruling from the Bakke case stand to lose all dreams and aspirations of black people controlling their destiny through the key of education, that so many of our forefathers have fought for.

#### DEATH PENALTY

one-time were on death row, a certain inmate's feelings toward his particular situation came to mind:

Michael X is an inmate, who is presently serving a life sentence at a North Carolina state penal institution. He feels that a man doesn't really think about what's going to happen to him when he's committing a crime.

From this response, I concluded that severe punishment does not necessarily prevent crime. That is not to imply that all offenders who have committed a serious crime at some time do not think about the possibility of receiving a severe punishment.

The question involved here is whether or not society should rely on the death penalty as a severe punishment as opposed to a life sentence, etc. Many have argued that to keep those sentenced to life, in prison, is extremely costly to the state. Are we to take the same attitude towards the poor who at times need funding from the state? The father living in the ghetto who is without a job; the eighteen year old who hangs with his friends on a street corner instead of being in the classroom; or even the individual who has a severe drug problem and cannot find proper help.

Should these attitudes of being a "burden to the state" apply to these victims of circumstance? You decide for yourself, but in deciding, try to keep in mind the various factors involved. Remember too, that none of us are perfect, and if we are to give the state the right to sentence someone to death, we, too, could become a victim of circumstances.

#### STUDENT MOVEMENT from pg. 5

Democratic convention in Atlantic City to challenge the credentials of the regular Democrats and cast the state's vote for the party's nominees. To mount this challenge against the racist Democrats of Mississippi COFO enrolled 60,000 members in the FDP and then organized precedent county and state conventions to choose 68 integrated delegates to go North. The FDP, in which tens of thousands of black Mississippi citizens invested tremendous hopes, was a true grassroots political movement and the greatest achievement of Freedom Summer."

The FDP went to Atlantic City to challenge the Mississippi regulars. Northern liberals tried to work out a compromise that would appease the FDP and at the same time keep the bulk of the Southern delegations in the convention. President Johnson's proposal was to send all the Mississippi regulars who pledged loyalty to the party and not to grant the FDP voting rights but to let them sit on the floor of the convention.

The FDP refused this proposal and Johnson sent Senator Hubert Humphrey to draw a compromise. Humphrey offered to permit two FDP delegates to sit in the convention with full voting rights if he could choose the delegates. The Mississippi white regulars walked out and the FDP led by Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer decided not to accept the compromise.

The failure of the FDP to be seated led SNCC to attempt organizing an all black independent political party a year later.

In the summer of 1964, members of the SNCC staff were invited to visit the Republic of Guinea by Sekou Toure. While traveling in Africa they met Malcolm X

## BLACK EXPRESSIONS

Dedicated to the Class of '82: BE STRONG!

Big shit is comin' down

Yeah, big shit is comin' down  
I can see it  
I can feel it  
I can hear it

Yeah, big shit is comin' down  
That's why they killed Steve Biko  
That's why they keep selling the Kukkerand  
That's why the Klan runs the White House.

Yeah, big shit is comin' down  
Cause 'bloods' is 'rappin'  
Cops are 'cappin'  
The economy is 'snappin'

Yeah, big shit is comin' down  
They keep talking about an energy shortage.  
The neutron bomb, biological warfare and  
Unemployed black youth

Yeah, big shit is comin' down  
And it's possible bloods might not be around

Yeah, big shit is comin' down  
It's comin'  
It's comin'  
It's comin'  
And Mr. Whipple nor Charmin's tissue will help

Tony VanDeMeer

## NO IMAGES

by Waring Cuney  
She does not know  
Her beauty.  
She thinks her brown body  
Has no glory

If she could dance  
Naked,  
Under palm trees  
And see her image in the  
river  
She would know

But there are no palm trees  
On the street  
And dish water gives back  
no images

## NIGGER

by Frank Horne  
Little Black Boy  
Chased down the street  
"Nigger, nigger never die  
Black face an' shiny eye  
Nigger...nigger...nigger..."

Hannibal...Hannibal  
Bangin' through the Alps  
Licked the proud Romans,  
Ran home with their scalps -  
"Nigger...nigger...nigger..."

Othello...black man  
Mighty in war  
Listened to Iago.  
Called his wife a whore -  
"Nigger...nigger...nigger..."

Crispus...Attucks  
Bullets in his chest  
Red blood of freedom  
Runnin' down his vest  
"Nigger...nigger...nigger..."

Toussaint...Toussaint  
Ade the French flee  
Fought like a demon  
Set his people free -  
"Nigger...nigger...nigger..."

Jesus...Jesus  
Son of the Lord  
- Spit in his face  
- Nail him on a board  
"Nigger...nigger...nigger..."

Little Black Boy  
Run down the street  
"Nigger, nigger never die  
Black face an' shiny eye

# Poetry in Motion

# 1

Out of the dust they came fighting, clawing, scratching and diving to achieve that final element called victory.

In the fall of 1976 10 blacks banded together to form a solid, hard-hitting touch football team that won every game except the championship game. The name of this dynamic machine is called "Poetry in Motion."

Poetry in Motion consisted of Vernon Eddy '79, Michael Fountain '79, Steve Chandler '78, Kelvin Baldwin '78, Kevin McCarthy '79, Paul Dooley '80, Steve Winter '80, Ellwood Johnston, Jr. '79, Gordon Boelter '79 and Ed Roberts '80.

This fall, Poetry in Motion not only equalled last year's record of an undefeated regular season but also won the championship which avenged last year's loss in the playoffs. "It's about time we won it because we were cool last year but then we blew it down the stretch," commented Gordon Boelter, the quarterback known as the "Black Fran Tarkenton."

This year's victory was a cooperative effort from the defense as well as the offense.

Poetry in Motion rolled to a season mark of 8 consecutive wins vs. 0 losses for the 1977 fall season. The last two years combined win and loss record is 15-1. The tenacious defense also averaged a touchback a game while tallying 3 and 4 touchbacks on some evenings. The defense also had 4 shutouts which account for half the team's season. There were only three touchdowns scored against the team while Poetry in Motion completed 15 touchdown attempts on the season.

Offensive play was dominated by receivers Woody (Fiestro) Johnston, Jr. and Paul Dooley who both kept the defensive opponents busy with their dazzling catches while relying on Boelter's ability to "throw the bomb."

Poetry in Motion scored 126 total season points versus 22 total points between eight opponents or 15.7 point average versus a 2.75 point average.

Defensive play was led by Gordon Boelter (middle linebacker) and Kevin (Dingo) McCarthy by making some outstanding play within the secondary.



Above Quarterback Gordon Boelter throws a long touchdown pass to Receiver Woody Johnston.



Below players of Poetry In Motion. Front Row: Paul Dooley, Vernon Eddy, Gordon Boelter, Kelvin Baldwin, Edward Roberts, Steven Winters. Back Row: Ellwood Johnston, Jr., Steven Chandler, Joseph Myers, Michael Fountain.

## A HOPE FOR THE BOSTON COMMUNITY

by Mildred N. Devenport

Boxing is one of the most physical sports a human being can engage in. It requires skill, training, courage and desire. It is a sport which, for many years, was thought of as brutal and ungentlemanly. Because of this, boxing has not enjoyed one of the better reputations in the field of athletics.

However, boxing has been a rewarding and lucrative endeavor for some, usually a chosen few. But there are young men who would like to change boxing's reputation and make it the sport which it can and should be, respected.

Doug Pendavis may not be a Marvelous Marvin Hagler but he is doing a lot of boxing. He's been in the ring, he knows what those fighters go through up there and what they go through to get up there. It's the getting there he'd like to change.

Doug is a promoter, one of the first black male promoters in the Boston area. He is associated with "Marvelous" Marvin Hagler and plans to feature Tony Petrilli in an upcoming bout. His goal is to hold more championship fights in Boston and "to make boxing a clean sport, one for the whole family to enjoy."

But there's more to the Jacksonville (Fla.)-born, Boston-reared Pendavis. He's a family man. He and his wife Charlotte are the parents of four lovely girls and reside in

Norton, Mass. He's a film editor at WBZ-TV in Boston, and is presently working on acquiring his FCC First Class License.

Doug's ambition is related to his Boston upbringing. Living in Roxbury as a youth, he knows what it's like having to defend oneself to

establish oneself. His aim is to open the first black Olympic training gymnasium in the greater Boston area; not to turn out a mass of street fighters, but a place where young people can get rid of their hostilities and channel them into constructive workouts. A place

where kids can learn the skills and fundamentals of boxing. He hopes to establish this gym in the old school house on the corner of Morton and Norfolk Sts. in Dorchester.

Doug has the ambition, hope and experience but he also needs support. He's

open to any and all ideas and suggestions and raw material.

If you have any or all of the above to contribute, please write him at 17 Zoppo Dr., Norton, Mass. 02766.

Doug Pendavis is a part of the future, for all of us.

## Congratulation to Judge Frederick L. Brown, N.U.'s Second Black Trustee

by Anthony Jenkins  
Onyx Correspondent

Judge Frederick L. Brown, an Associate Justice in the Appeals Court of Massachusetts was appointed a Trustee of Northeastern University. Judge Brown is Northeastern University's second black Trustee.

The honor graduate from Harvard University served as an Associate Professor of Law from 1973 to 1976 at Northeastern and had also instructed a class of Law at Boston University for three years previously. Judge Brown acted as Chairman for the State Health Facilities Appeals Board. He also served as Director of the Greater Boston Legal Services, a member of the Council, and the Boston Bar Association.

When asked about Northeastern Judge Brown commented, "Assuming its role, Northeastern's different than a lot of other

institutions in an educational system. It's concerned about what kind of people we are going to be."

Judge Brown has a wife named Constance, and three children named Elizabeth, Alison and Kipchoge.

Judge Brown likes to relax after being on the bench all day. Watching football has been one of Judge Brown's favorite fall pastimes even though he admits he likes all sports. He admits, "I'm hurt watching what's happening to the Celtics and every week my football team varies."

After admitting that this interview interrupted his football game, Brown stated, "If there's anything I'd like to see, it would be more involvement with the immediate neighborhoods. Northeastern should reach the person who doesn't have a chance to go to school."



Judge Frederick L. Brown